

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

August 13, 2014

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell (Absent)
Alexa Heffernan
Mark Peltan (Absent)
Guy Richardson
Kim Spading
Roberta Yoder

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)
Senator Jack Whitver (absent)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen
Sally Titus
Deb Johnson
Amy McCoy

Nancy Freudenberg
Wendy Rickman
Jennifer Vermeer
Vern Armstrong
Robert Schlueter

GUESTS

Lynhon Stout, IFAPA
Dennis Tibben, Iowa Medical Society
Kristie Oliver, Coalition for Family and Children's Services
Tom Cope, Orchard Place
Sandi Hurtado-Peters, Iowa Department of Management
Jeremy Whitver, Iowa Hospital Association

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Vice-Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, in the first floor conference rooms of the Hoover State Office Building.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present with the exception of Hansell and Peltan. Ex-officio legislative members Fry, Ragan and Whitver were absent. Heddens was present via conference phone.

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules to Council.

Amendments to Chapter 7, Appeals. Updates the definition of "Aggrieved Person," in the administrative rules to add clarity and provide for appeals rights for persons in new programs.

A motion was made by Heffernan to approve and seconded by Yoder.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Amendments to Chapters 78 and 79, Medicaid. Allow legal representatives to be paid providers when providing services to members receiving individual CDAC or CCO.

A motion was made by Yoder to approve and seconded by Heffernan.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Amendments to Chapter 79, Medicaid. Increases the fee schedule for emergency medical service providers by 10%.

A motion was made by Richardson to approve and seconded by Heffernan.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Amendments to Chapter 79, Medicaid. Allows Community Mental Health Centers to choose to be reimbursed through a different methodology.

A motion was made by Yoder to approve and seconded by Spading.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Amendments to Chapter 156, Foster Group Care. Adds minimum foster group care rates.

A motion was made by Richardson to approve and seconded by Heffernan.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Amendments to Chapter 170, Child Care Assistance. Expands child care assistance eligibility to allow a parent to attend school part-time and work part-time for at least 28 hours in the aggregate.

A motion was made by Yoder to approve and seconded by Spading.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

REPORT OF NOTICED ACTION

N-1 Amendments to Chapter 77, Medicaid. Clarifies the training requirements for HCBS Brain Injury waiver providers and direct service staff.

N-2 Amendments to Chapter 110, Child Care. Updates the requirement for child care providers to have emergency contact information accessible for children in child care.

N-3 Amendments to Chapter 110, Child Care. Updates the requirement for the Department to inspect 100% of child development homes annually in a fiscal year.

A motion was made by Spading to accept the Report of Noticed Action and seconded by Richardson. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

DISCUSSION

Licensure vs. Registration of Child Care

Wendy Rickman, Administrator, Division of Adult, Children and Family Services, reported that since 2010 there has been a decline in the number of child care providers. One reason for the decline has been DHS's centralization of the Child Care Assistance Unit which has more transparent rules and a standardized payment structure. Also, some providers have surrendered their licensure due to returning to the workforce since the recession. In addition, our federal partners require background checks and fingerprint record checks, which some providers find too intrusive.

Child Care Centers are licensed for two years, with a pre-inspection visit by DHS before opening. Some professional development is required annually as well as background and fingerprint record checks.

Child Development Homes are registered and have three different categories. They have a two-year registration with no pre-inspection requirements.

Non-Registered Child Care Assistance (CCA) providers care for at least one child that receives CCA and "self-certify" that they meet minimum health and safety requirements. These providers can care for 5 or less children.

Rickman noted that the current configuration of child care providers has been working well, with very few problems regarding capacity. Typical complaints center on non-registered providers serving more than 5 children and generally the Department can work out solutions with the individual provider.

Therapeutic Foster Care

Rickman reported that nationally, there is no standard definition for “therapeutic foster care” and noted that the Department has had various models of therapeutic foster care over the years. Currently, the types of children placed into foster care have more behavioral problems. The Department does not have a therapeutic system in place now. There are many models of therapeutic foster care across the country and sufficient time must be given to research and select a model that is outcome based.

Implementation must be well planned with sufficient resources in place to support the change in practice, including:

- Having a sufficient number of foster parents who can provide this level of care;
- A mechanism to determine whether a child meets this level of care;
- Staff to develop and monitor the treatment plan; and
- Available advanced training for foster families

Subsidized Guardianship

Rickman distributed copies of a letter (dated August 11, 2014) addressed to Mark Peltan and Council Members from Iowa Family Rights in regard to guardianships. Chuck Palmer and Vern Armstrong meet quarterly with representatives of Iowa Family Rights (IFR). DHS welcomes input from IFR and looks forward to receiving their proposals for system change.

Rickman noted that there is no “wrong door” when it comes to lodging complaints with the Department and that there is a process for tracking complaints when they are received by the Department.

From 2007 to 2010 the Department implemented a subsidized guardianship Title IV-E Waiver Program. The primary goal was to improve permanency outcomes for older children in foster care. In this three-year program 32 subsidized guardianships were established. In 2011 the Department explored continuing subsidized guardianships per Fostering Connections legislation. Exploration included federal eligibility requirements such as families needing to be licensed as foster families to receive federal funding, existing data and cost neutrality.

The percentage of children in foster care who are placed with a relative:

State Fiscal Year 2008: 24% were placed with a relative

State Fiscal Year 2013: 35% were placed with a relative

Anderson asked that Rickman and Armstrong convey to Iowa Family Rights that the Council has received their concerns.

MEDICAID UPDATE

Jennifer Vermeer, Medicaid Director, introduced Robert Schlueter, Chief, Bureau of Adult and Children's Medical Programs, to the Council.

Vermeer distributed two handouts:

- 1) Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Weekly Report (dated Friday, 8/8/2014)
- 2) Healthy Behaviors Program Outreach and Education Strategy Summary of Outreach Tactics

The overall "Iowa Health and Wellness Plan" currently has 108,915 enrollments. The total for "Medically Exempt" is now over 11,000. There have been over 9,000 Health Risk Assessments completed as well as over 6,000 Dental Wellness Plan Oral Risk Assessments completed.

Last week the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) review team was here to visit with Broadlawns Medical Center, other stakeholder groups and DHS. Vermeer thought the visit went well.

The State now has four Accountable Care Organizations (ACO's). ACO's are groups of doctors, hospitals and other health care providers, who have agreed to provide integrated care to patients, with the goal of achieving better health results, as well as fostering accountability in their care

In July, the Department released an RFP (Request for Proposal) for non-emergency transportation services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Yoder to accept the minutes of 7/9/14 and seconded by Heffernan. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

COUNCIL MEMBERS UPDATE

There were no updates.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chuck Palmer, Director, reviewed the issue of 'children's services' with the Council. Some would like to see a more integrated children's service system statewide that would address not only the child welfare system but also mental health, juvenile justice and education. There are a variety of funding streams and delivery systems focused on serving children and the issue becomes how to integrate a fragmented system.

Representative Heddens noted that the Legislature is looking at the work done in regard to children's mental health system to perhaps better coordinate services through all the various entities and departments. Heddens also expressed her concern about meeting the needs of female juvenile delinquents since the closure of the Toledo facility.

Palmer reported that an individual from the Civil Commitment Unit for Sexual Offenders (CCUSO) that ran away from a transition program was apprehended in Oklahoma. At some point, the Council may want to review the issues of dealing with violent sexual offenders who have completed their sentences and are now in a treatment program.

Heddens asked what the Department's plan was for addressing the Medicaid shortfall for 2014 and 2015 and going forward. Palmer responded that no additional funding was provided, so the immediate concern remains in the \$30-35 million range which needs to be addressed between now and September. DHS and the Department of Management are reviewing possible transfers of funds and options are being discussed to avoid direct impact to those in the program or impact to provider rates. Palmer said that more will be forthcoming in September for the Council's budget meeting and the Department will share details with the Council and Legislators exactly where the Department has identified the transfers and rationale for their recommendations for 2014 that affect 2015 and beyond.

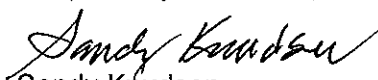
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Heffernan to adjourn and seconded by Spading.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Council adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Council will be September 9 and 10, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,


Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary